

# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3



LIVING LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

27th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to warmly welcome our three new families to St Margaret's. It has been a very busy 8 weeks and to make it harder, there have been quite a few bugs that have got the better of us. I think it is fair to say that our summer wardrobes have been put into storage. As the days are now colder and wetter, please remember to check that your child comes to school with a coat and has a pair of wellies in school.

We have carried out two of our three open sessions for prospective 2024 reception parents. Many have commented on the calm friendly environment and have been pleasantly surprised with what they have seen. We are incredibly proud of our children's exemplary behaviour and engagement during their recent trips. Last week the photographer was in school and before he left he said 'Children are very well behaved, I haven't been to a school where children are so well behaved in a very long time'. This demonstrates how all our children live out our Christian values.

Today, we break for our half term. **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** is our professional development day where we will be welcoming Jason Wade who will be covering a broad range of English – writing, grammar, spelling, reading, phonics and vocabulary. Please note school will be **closed for children**.

Have a great half term.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mrs Shepherd'.

Mrs Shepherd

## LIVING LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

### Collective Worship Leads

Over the last two weeks some children have taken part in an interview process to become a collective worship lead. Thank you to all children who gave up their time to apply. So far we have appointed Eli jah, Isla, Shakir, Esme, Elliott and Georgia.



### Mental Health Champions



We have also interviewed children to become Mental Health Champions. All these children have undertaken their initial 4 hours training, with more to follow. There will be more from them as the months go by but for now they would like to share with you a method to stay calm:

*Five finger breathing technique - as you trace up and down your five fingers, breathe deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth.*

These precious contributions from our children embody the essence of community; reminding us of the power of compassion and unity.



**BLACK COUNTRY  
FOODBANK**  
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

### Harvest Donations

Thank you all for your kind donations, the food we collected embody the essence of community, reminding us of the power of compassion. The

Black Country Food Bank are still counting the donations collected over Harvest, but they have thanked us and will update us in December with how much was collected from our school.



Mental Health Champions have arranged for us to take part in Children in Need this year. They are asking for donations of £1.00 and it will be a non-uniform day. (See details below).

There will also be a used toy sale in school on this day, more details to follow.

Be **SPOTACULAR** this year. We will be taking part in Children in Need on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. We encourage all children to wear spots/yellow clothing (no football kits) and make a donation. Your donations will contribute to changing lives.



On **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November** from 4.30pm, we will be holding our Christmas Fayre. Plans are beginning to take place; all the classes have decided what they are going to make, and I am pleased to announce that the North Pole Cafe will be open and Father Christmas has promised to pop in. We are looking for donations for our raffle. If you have anything to donate or could possibly persuade a company to make a donation, we would be very grateful.

Thank you Hasbury Chippy who have donated 2x £15 vouchers and Mr and Mrs Hill who have donated a Gutter and Facia clean.

All monies raised from this event, school disco etc. will go towards a trim trail for the year 3 and 4 playground. This is the only playground without one and the children have asked if it would be possible to have one.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP.** It takes a lot of people to run a successful Christmas Fayre. Miss Jones and I will be holding a planning meeting on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm**. We would really appreciate anyone popping in to offer their help in the weeks leading up to the Fayre.

## Great news, we are taking part in Dudley's Community Toothbrush Scheme

We are partnering with Dudley Council's Public Health Team to provide free toothbrush packs to children and adults residents in need, after half-term in a bid to improve the oral health of families.



*Tooth decay is the most common oral disease affecting children and young people in England.*

*For a largely preventable health challenge, oral health may slip down the list of priorities, especially because of the present difficult financial times. Dudley Council hopes that by launching Dudley's Community Toothbrush Scheme and providing toothbrush packs to families accessing their organisations, we can support adults and children in taking care of their oral health.*

Some of the times/dates of events have changed from the last newsletter, please make sure you have noted the correct date.

### Diary Dates:

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – HALF TERM**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – School re-opens to all pupils

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – 1.15pm – Open afternoon for new Reception intake 2024

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November – 2.30pm - Meeting for Christmas Fayre- any parent volunteers may attend

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Y6 Visit to Earls High School for Matt Lucas book signing

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need – Wear Yellow/Spotty clothes

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Y1 Walk to Halesowen Library

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – NHS Flu vaccine mop up day

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – 8.30am – KSI Hall –Storytime – Nursery, Reception & Years 1 & 2

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – 4.30pm – 6.30pm– Christmas Fayre

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Reindeer Run Fundraiser for Mary Stevens Hospice

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am – KSI Christmas Production **(NEW TIME)**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 1.30pm– KSI Christmas Production **(NEW TIME)**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – School Choir performing in Halesowen Town Centre

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Disco (Details to follow)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – 1.45pm – KS2 Christingle

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am – EYFS Christmas Concert

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – School Choir to perform to the residents at Lytleton House

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – END OF TERM

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January – School re-opens to all pupils for Spring Term

### **Time/Date to be confirmed:**

Reception Crib Service